

Amendments to the claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 5. Please cancel claims 3 and 4 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 9-20.

Sub B. (currently amended) A double locking mortise joint comprising:

(a) a first member having:

i) a first mortise being formed generally perpendicularly with respect to an axis of said first member, said first mortise having:

1) a gusset top extending generally perpendicularly outward with respect to said axis of said first member;

2) a head bottom opposite to and generally parallel to said gusset top;

3) a first mortise end being generally parallel to said axis of said first member and connecting said gusset top and said head bottom;

ii) a first contact surface and a second contact surface next to said first mortise end;

(b) a second member having:

i) a second mortise having two opposing sides being generally parallel to each other, and a second mortise end connecting said two opposing sides;

ii) a top surface and a bottom surface next to said second mortise end;

whereby said first member and said second member are rigidly and snugly yet removably joined together at the first mortise and the second mortise by fitting said gusset top and said head bottom between said two opposing sides of said second mortise, such that said head bottom extends onto said top surface, said gusset top extends onto said bottom surface, and said two opposing sides extend onto said first contact surface and said second contact surface, and

wherein said first mortise further comprises a first corner and a second mortise corner, said first mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said head bottom, said second mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said gusset top, and at least one of said two mortise corners is rounded.

2. (original) The double locking mortise joint of claim 1, wherein said head bottom is not longer in length than said gusset top.

3-4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) The double locking mortise joint of claim 1[3], wherein both of said two mortise corners are rounded.

6. (original) The double locking mortise joint of claim 1, wherein said first member is a table leg, and said second member is a corner of a tabletop.

7. (original) The double locking mortise joint of claim 6, wherein said first member further comprises an inner side and an outer side, said inner side and said outer side being substantially parallel to each other.

8. (original) The double locking mortise joint of claim 7, wherein said inner side and said outer side have a same curvature.

A<sub>1</sub>  
(cont)

9. (new) A double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections comprising:

(a) one or more table legs, each of said one or more table legs having:

i) a first mortise being formed generally perpendicularly with respect to an axis of said table leg, said first mortise having:

1) a gusset top extending generally perpendicularly outward with respect to said axis of said first member;

2) a head bottom opposite to and generally parallel to said gusset top and said head bottom is not longer in length than said gusset top;

3) a first mortise end being generally parallel to said axis of said table leg and connecting said gusset top and said head bottom;

ii) a first contact surface and a second contact surface next to said first mortise end;

(b) one or more tabletop edges, each of said one or more tabletop edges having:

- i) a second mortise having two opposing sides being generally parallel to each other, and a second mortise end connecting said two opposing sides;
- ii) a top surface and a bottom surface next to said second mortise end;

wherein said table leg and said tabletop edge are rigidly and snugly yet removably joined together at the first mortise and the second mortise by fitting said gusset top and said head bottom between said two opposing sides of said second mortise, such that said head bottom extends onto said top surface, said gusset top extends onto said bottom surface, and said two opposing sides extend onto said first contact surface and said second contact surface, and

wherein one or more of said joints support a tabletop without any further supporting structural members or pieces existing below a horizontal plane which lies at the joining of the first mortise and second mortise.

10. (new) The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 9, wherein said first mortise further comprises a first corner and a second mortise corner, said first mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said head bottom, said second mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said gusset top, and at least one of said two mortise corners is rounded.

11. (new) The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 10, wherein both of said two mortise corners are rounded.

12. (new) The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 9, wherein the table leg has a height dimension longer than both a width and depth dimension of the table leg combined.

13. (new) The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 9, wherein each of said one or more table legs

further comprises an inner side and an outer side, said inner side and said outer side being substantially parallel to each other.

14. (new) The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 13, wherein said inner side and said outer side have a same curvature.

15. (new) A double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections comprising:

(a) one or more table legs, each of said one or more table legs having:

i) a first mortise being formed generally perpendicularly with respect to an axis of said table leg, said first mortise having:

1) a gusset top extending generally perpendicularly outward with respect to said axis of said first member;

2) a head bottom opposite to and generally parallel to said gusset top;

3) a first mortise end being generally parallel to said axis of said table leg and connecting said gusset top and said head bottom;

ii) a first contact surface and a second contact surface next to said first mortise end;

(b) one or more tabletop edges, each of said one of more tabletop edges having:

i) a second mortise having two opposing sides being generally parallel to each other, and a second mortise end connecting said two opposing sides;

ii) a top surface and a bottom surface next to said second mortise end;

wherein said table leg and said tabletop edge are rigidly and snugly yet removably joined together at the first mortise and the second mortise by fitting said gusset top and said head bottom between said two opposing sides of said second mortise, such that said head bottom extends onto said top surface, said gusset top extends onto said bottom surface, and said two opposing sides extend onto said first contact surface and said second contact surface, and

wherein a tabletop is supported and stabilized only by the one or more joints and table legs without any additional support pieces.

16. (new) The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 15, wherein said first mortise further comprises a first corner and a second mortise corner, said first mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said head bottom, said second mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said gusset top, and at least one of said two mortise corners is rounded.
17. (new) The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 16, wherein both of said two mortise corners are rounded.
18. (new) The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 15, wherein the table leg has a height dimension longer than both a width and depth dimension of the table leg combined.
19. (new) The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 15, wherein each of said one or more table legs further comprises an inner side and an outer side, said inner side and said outer side being substantially parallel to each other.
20. (new) The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 19, wherein said inner side and said outer side have a same curvature.